

DRAWING AMENDMENTS

Annotated and replacement drawing sheets for Figs. 5, 7, 8 and 9 are attached.

REMARKS

In an Office Action mailed on February 14, 2007, objections were made to the drawings, objections were made to the specification; claims 56-58 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph; claims 50-58 were rejected on the ground of non-statutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-4, 9, 19-21 and 33-36 of U.S. Patent No. 6,740,437; and claims 50-58 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(a) as being anticipated by Yamada or alternatively under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious over Yamada.

A drawing amendment is being submitted herewith, which contains annotated and replacement sheets that remove reference numerals 510, 716, 812 and 900. The specification has been amended to remove reference numeral 509. Additionally, the specification has been amended to clarify that reference numeral 320 refers to the conduit. Therefore, in view of these changes, Applicant respectfully submits that the drawing objections have been overcome.

The specification has been amended to update the status of the applications. Additionally, claims 56-58 have been amended to refer to “the power demand signal.” A terminal disclaimer is also being filed in this application to overcome the double patenting rejection.

Regarding the §§102 and 103 rejections, Applicant relies on the EP Publication (EP 1 132 251) for the English translation of Yamada. Based on the EP reference, the reference discloses a sensor as to one which informs the system whether the operating temperature of the fuel cell is within a predetermined operating range. The sensor S21 an overall health sensor indicative above the health of the system. Based on the output from the sensor S21, the system determines whether or not to disconnect the load from the system. However, there is no teaching or suggestion in the reference regarding a heat demand signal that is received from a device that is thermally coupled to a fuel cell for purposes of indicating a heat demand. Furthermore, there is no teaching or suggestion in the reference regarding controlling either a fuel or an oxidant flow based on such a heat demand signal. In this regard, the only device controlled in the reference is the relay in response to the status of the S21 switch. Therefore, for at least any of these reasons, the cited reference fails to teach or suggest the limitations of amended independent claim 50.

Claims 51-58 are patentable for at least the reason that these claims depend from an allowable claim.

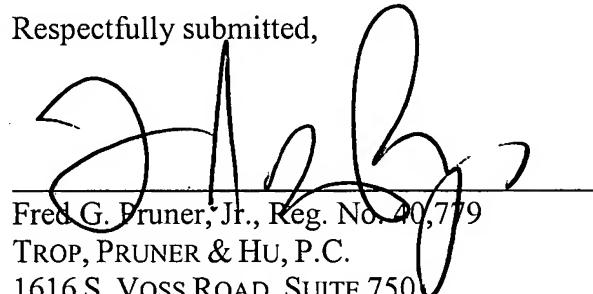
CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully requests withdraw of the §§102 and 103 rejections and a favorable action in the form of a notice of allowance.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 20-1504 (PUG.0083C1US).

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Respectfully submitted,



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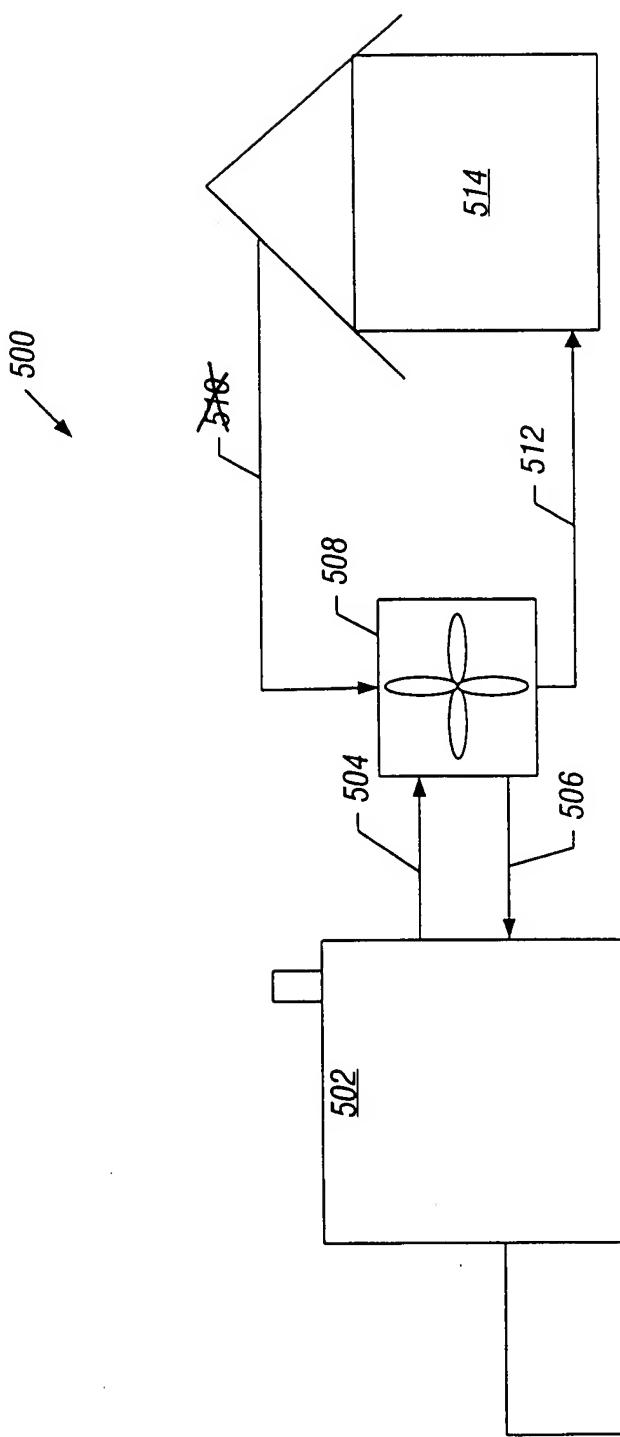


FIG. 5

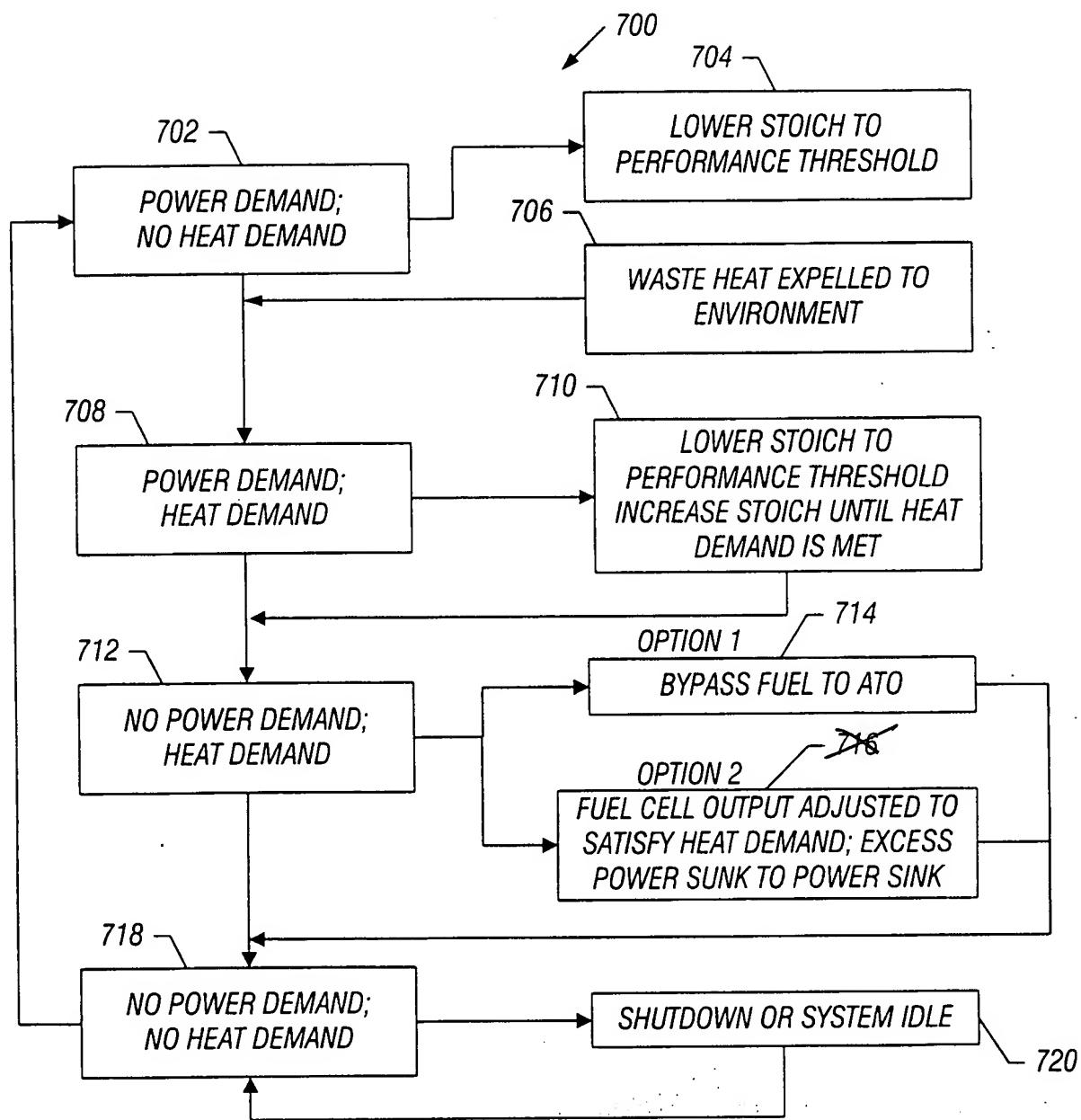


FIG. 7

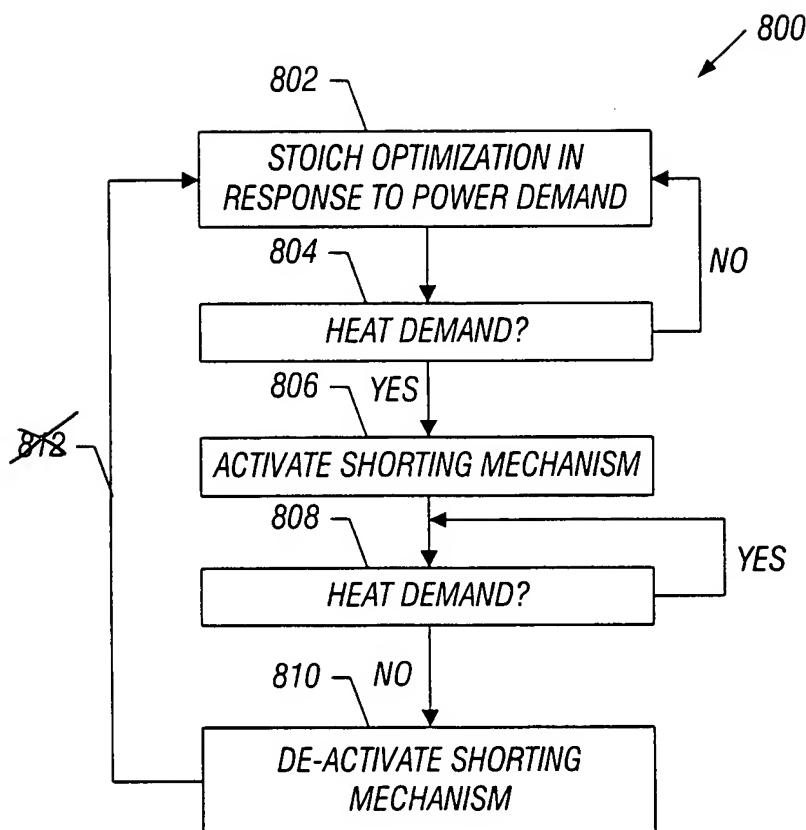


FIG. 8

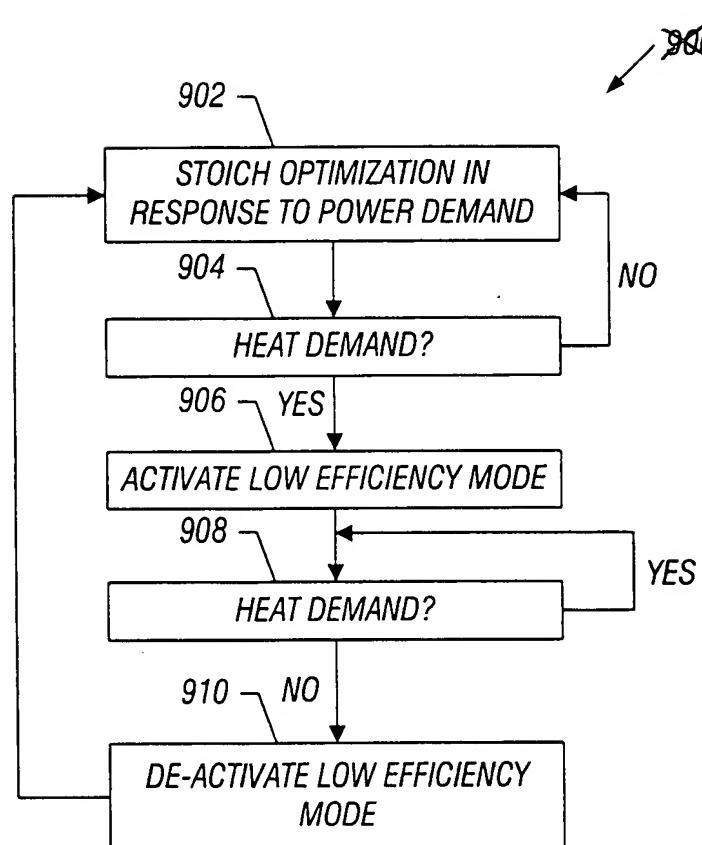


FIG. 9